Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph on page 1, at lines 4-9, as follows:

The invention disclosed in this application is related in subject matter to co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/839,079 ~~09/____,____~~ (RAL9-2000-0120US) filed concurrently herewith by J. F. Logan et al. for "Data Structures for Efficient Processing of Multicast Transmissions" and assigned to a common assignee with this application. The disclosure of application Serial No. 09/839,079 ~~09/____,____~~ is incorporated herein by reference.